

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (previously presented) A filter-drier for drying refrigerant circulated in a refrigeration system by removing moisture therefrom, the filter-drier comprising:

a casing having an inlet for receiving refrigerant and an outlet for discharging refrigerant, the casing including opposed end portions and an intermediate portion disposed between said end portions and having an inner surface;

a molded core formed from dessicant and a binder and being disposed in said casing between said inlet and outlet and having an outer surface and receiving flow of refrigerant therethrough; and

holding means between the casing inner surface and said core outer surface for holding the core in place, the holding means including bonding means between the inner surface of the casing and the outer surface of the core to inhibit axial movement of the core, the bonding means being provided by the dessicant core binder.

Claims 4-7 (cancelled)

Claim 8 (previously presented) A filter-drier for drying refrigerant circulated in a refrigeration system by removing moisture therefrom, the filter-drier comprising:

- a casing having an inlet for receiving refrigerant and an outlet for discharging refrigerant, the casing including opposed end portions and an intermediate portion disposed between said end portions and having an inner surface;

- a molded core formed from dessicant and a binder and being disposed in said casing between said inlet and outlet and having an outer surface and receiving flow of refrigerant therethrough; and

- holding means between the casing inner surface and said core outer surface for holding the core in place, the holding means including at least one preformed protrusion on the casing engaging the outer surface of the core to inhibit axial movement of the core;

- the casing including a cylindrical portion;

- the core including a cylindrical portion; and

- the cylindrical portion of the core being bonded to the cylindrical portion of the casing by the molded core binder.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A filter-drier for drying refrigerant circulated in a refrigeration system by removing moisture therefrom, the filter-drier comprising:

- a casing having an inlet for receiving refrigerant and an outlet for discharging refrigerant, the casing including opposed end portions and an

intermediate portion disposed between said end portions and having an inner surface;

a molded core formed from dessicant and a binder and being disposed in said casing between said inlet and outlet and having an outer surface and receiving flow of refrigerant therethrough; and

holding means between the casing inner surface and said core outer surface for holding the core in place, the holding means including at least one preformed protrusion on the casing engaging the outer surface of the core to inhibit axial movement of the core;

the core being formed from molded desiccant and a binder the binder providing at least part of the holding means bonding the core to the casing.

Claim 10 (original): A method of manufacturing a filter-drier having a tubular casing and a desiccant core between an inlet and an outlet comprising the steps of:

forming an indentation in the tubular casing, and

molding a desiccant core within the tubular casing around the indentation to conform to the configuration of the indentation.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A method of manufacturing a filter-drier as defined in claim 10, comprising the additional step of:

forming the core with a passage having a closed end adjacent the inlet and an open end adjacent the outlet.

Claim 12 (original): A method of manufacturing a filter-drier as defined in claim 10 comprising the additional step of:

forming the indentation as a U-shaped circular groove.

Claim 13 (original): A method of manufacturing a filter-drier having a tubular casing and a desiccant core between an inlet and an outlet comprising the steps of:

dividing an elongate tube into sections;

forming indentations in each section;

cutting each section to provide a plurality of tubular casings, having opposed ends; and

molding a desiccant core within each tubular casing to conform to the configuration of the indentation.

Claim 14 (original): A method of manufacturing a filter-drier as defined in claim 13, comprising the additional step of:

reducing at least one of the ends of each tubular section by metal spinning into a funnel shaped configuration.

Claims 15-16 (cancelled)

Claim 17 (currently amended): A filter-drier for drying refrigerant circulated in a refrigeration system by removing moisture therefrom, the filter-drier comprising:

a casing having an inlet for receiving refrigerant and an outlet for discharging refrigerant, the casing including opposed end portions and an intermediate portion disposed between said end portions and having an inner surface;

a molded core formed from dessicant and a binder disposed in said casing between said inlet and outlet and having an outer surface receiving flow of refrigerant therethrough;

holding means between the casing inner surface and said core outer surface for holding the core in place said holding means being provided by at least one of the molded core binder and a preformed protrusion provided by the casing to inhibit movement of the core; and

the holding means including bonding means between the inner surface of the casing and the outer surface of the core, the bonding means being provided by the desiccant core binder.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A filter-drier for drying refrigerant circulated in a refrigeration system by removing moisture therefrom, the filter-drier comprising:

a casing having an inlet for receiving refrigerant and an outlet for discharging refrigerant, the casing including opposed end portions and an intermediate portion disposed between said end portions and having an inner surface;

a molded core formed from dessicant and a binder disposed in said casing between said inlet and outlet and having an outer surface and receiving flow of refrigerant therethrough;

holding means between the casing inner surface and said core outer surface for holding the core in place said holding means being provided by at least one of the molded core binder and a preformed protrusion provided by the casing to inhibit movement of the core; and

the holding means being provided by a preformed protrusion extending into the outer surface of the core and bonding means between the inner surface of the casing and the outer surface of the core, said bonding means being provided by the desiccant core binder.

Claim 19 (new): A filter-drier for drying refrigerant circulated in a refrigeration system by removing moisture therefrom, the filter-drier comprising:

a casing having an inlet for receiving refrigerant and an outlet for discharging refrigerant, the casing including opposed end portions and an intermediate cylindrical portion disposed between said end portions;

a molded core formed from dessicant and a binder being disposed in said casing between said inlet and outlet and having an outer surface and receiving flow of refrigerant therethrough; and

wherein said intermediate cylindrical portion further includes a first part and a second part, the first part having a substantially constant diameter and the second part having at least one preformed protrusion engaging said core for holding the core in place to inhibit axial movement of the core.

Claim 20 (new): A filter-drier as defined in claim 19, wherein:

the first part is longer than the second part.

Claim 21 (new): A filter-drier as defined in claim 19, wherein:

the overall length of the first part is greater than one-half of the length of the intermediate cylindrical portion.

Claim 22 (new): A filter-drier as defined in claim 19, wherein:

the preformed protrusion includes at least one preformed annular portion.

Claim 23 (new): A filter-drier as defined in claim 19, wherein:

the preformed protrusion includes a single preformed annular portion.

Claim 24 (new): A filter-drier as defined in claim 19, wherein:

the core is formed from a fluid dessicant and binder mix to flow around the preformed portion to provide substantially complete contact therewith.